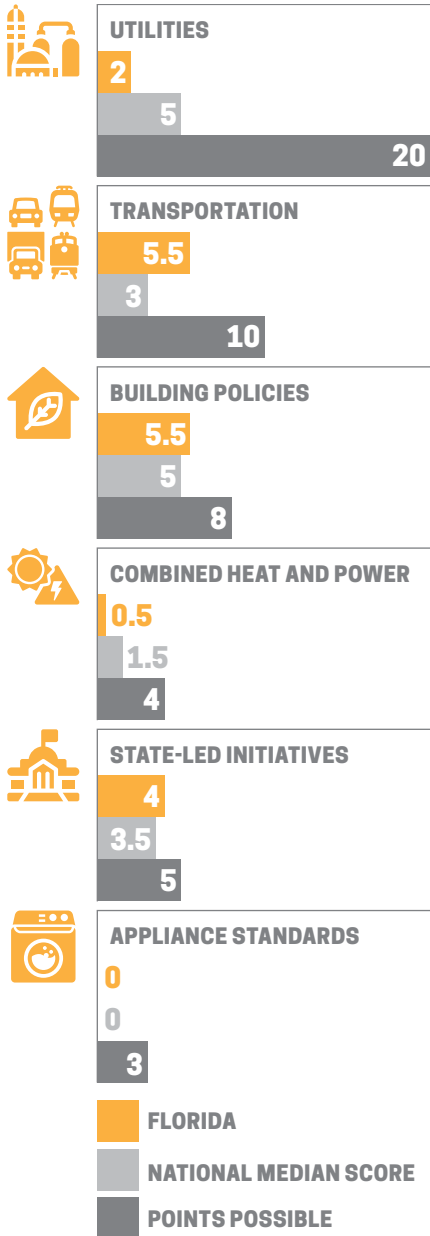




Florida

Florida ranked 23rd in the 2018 State Energy Efficiency Scorecard, falling one position compared to 2017. The state scored 17.5 out of 50 points, one point less than it earned last year.

Florida has shown support for energy efficiency through proactive building energy code adoption and compliance efforts and through a variety of state-funded incentive programs. However utility savings continue to lag behind most states in the wake of regulatory decisions to scale back demand-side management programs. Florida could improve in most policy categories by increasing investment in utility programs and adjusting utility business models to align utility incentives with efficiency.



UTILITIES

Utilities in the state allocate below-average levels of funding for both electricity and natural gas efficiency programs and report low levels of savings. In 2014, the Public Service Commission approved requests by utilities to dramatically decrease the level of energy efficiency offered to customers in the future. Further impeding the state's efficiency efforts is the PSC's reliance on the Rate Impact Measure (RIM) test, a cost-effectiveness screening tool that fails to account for societal savings benefits and is now only rarely used by other states as a basis for approving programs. Significant opportunity remains for Florida to treat energy efficiency as a utility system resource, which would help meet the state's future energy needs and help customers save money.

TRANSPORTATION

The state has policies to promote the integration of transportation and land use planning and has a freight plan in place. Florida also saw a reduction in vehicle miles traveled per capita in recent years.

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

Florida law requires residential and commercial buildings to comply with the 5th Edition Florida Building Code, equivalent to the 2012 IECC with state-specific amendments. Florida worked with the US Department of Energy's Building Energy Codes Program to conduct a compliance study in 2014. The state convenes a stakeholder advisory group and provides energy code training.

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER

The state offers incentives and grants for CHP projects, but otherwise has limited policies to encourage cost-effective and efficient CHP.

STATE GOVERNMENT-LED INITIATIVES

Florida offers rebate and grant programs, as well as commercial and residential PACE financing. The state has also been active in supporting energy efficiency in its agricultural sector by providing free energy evaluations and grant reimbursements on proposed efficiency measures. The Florida government leads by example to a limited extent, requiring energy-efficient fleets and encouraging the use of energy savings performance contracts. Several universities in the state conduct research and development focused on energy efficiency.

APPLIANCE STANDARDS

Florida has not set appliance standards beyond those required by the federal government.